

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

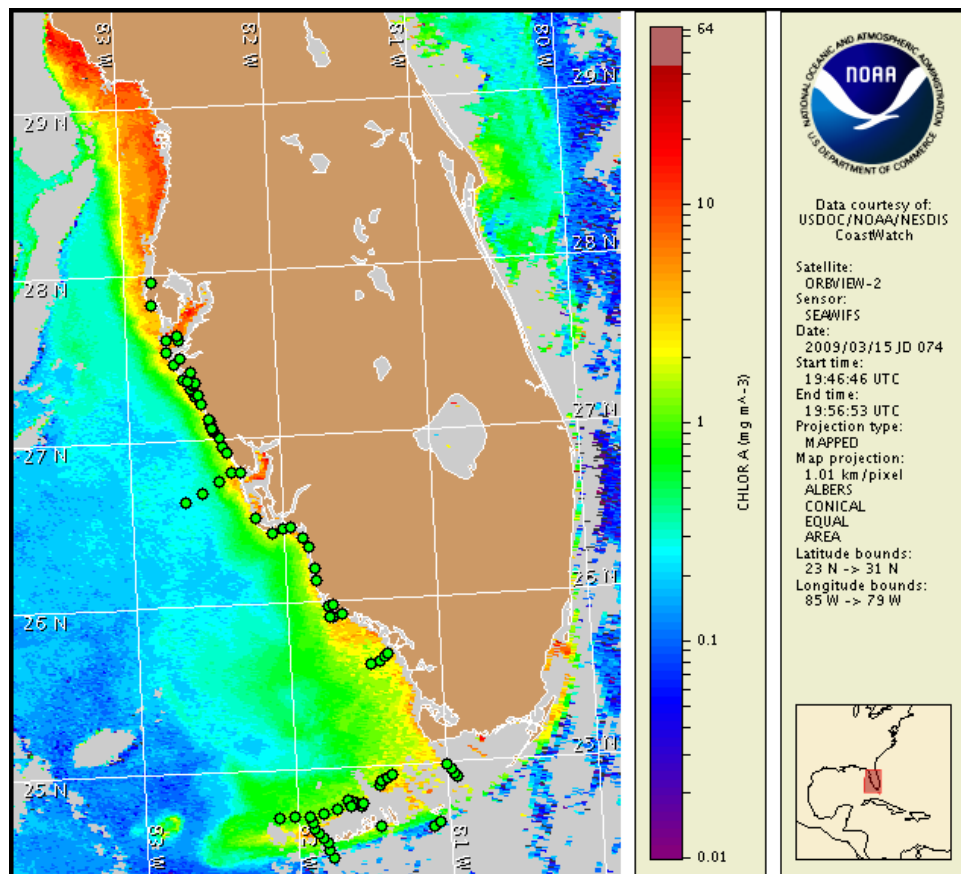
16 March 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: March 9, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 8 to 13 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.

Conditions Report

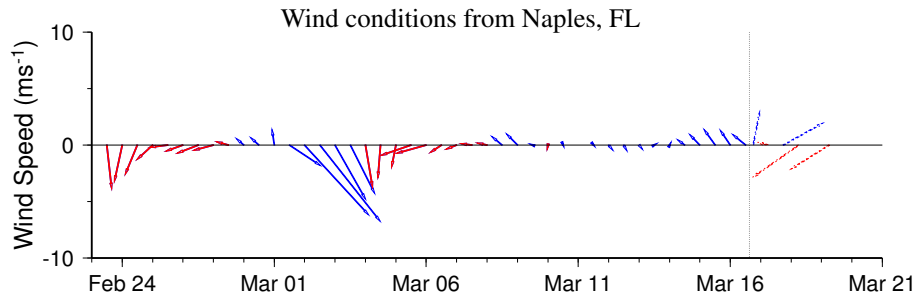
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida including the Florida Keys. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, March 22.

Analysis

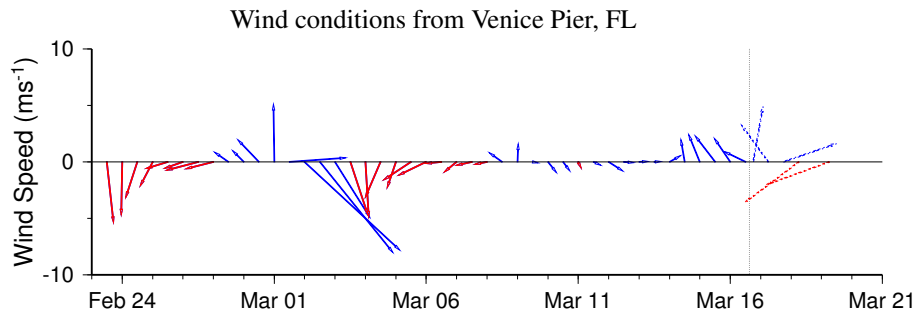
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. No *Karenia brevis* was identified in samples collected last week alongshore and offshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Monroe Counties, including the Florida Keys region (3/8-13; FWRI, SCHD, MML). Recent satellite imagery indicates the presence of a small elevated chlorophyll feature in the Ten Thousand Islands region of southern Collier County. The feature is located slightly southeast of two previously reported background concentrations of *K. brevis* (3/4, MML) at approximately 25°47'43"N 81°27'26"W. Features appearing in the Ten Thousand Islands region are not necessarily indicative of *K. brevis* presence. Additional elevated chlorophyll features visible in recent satellite imagery alongshore Pinellas and northern Charlotte Counties are likely resulting from confirmed blooms of various non-harmful algae.

Bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida is not expected today through Sunday, March 22.

~Fisher, Fenstermacher

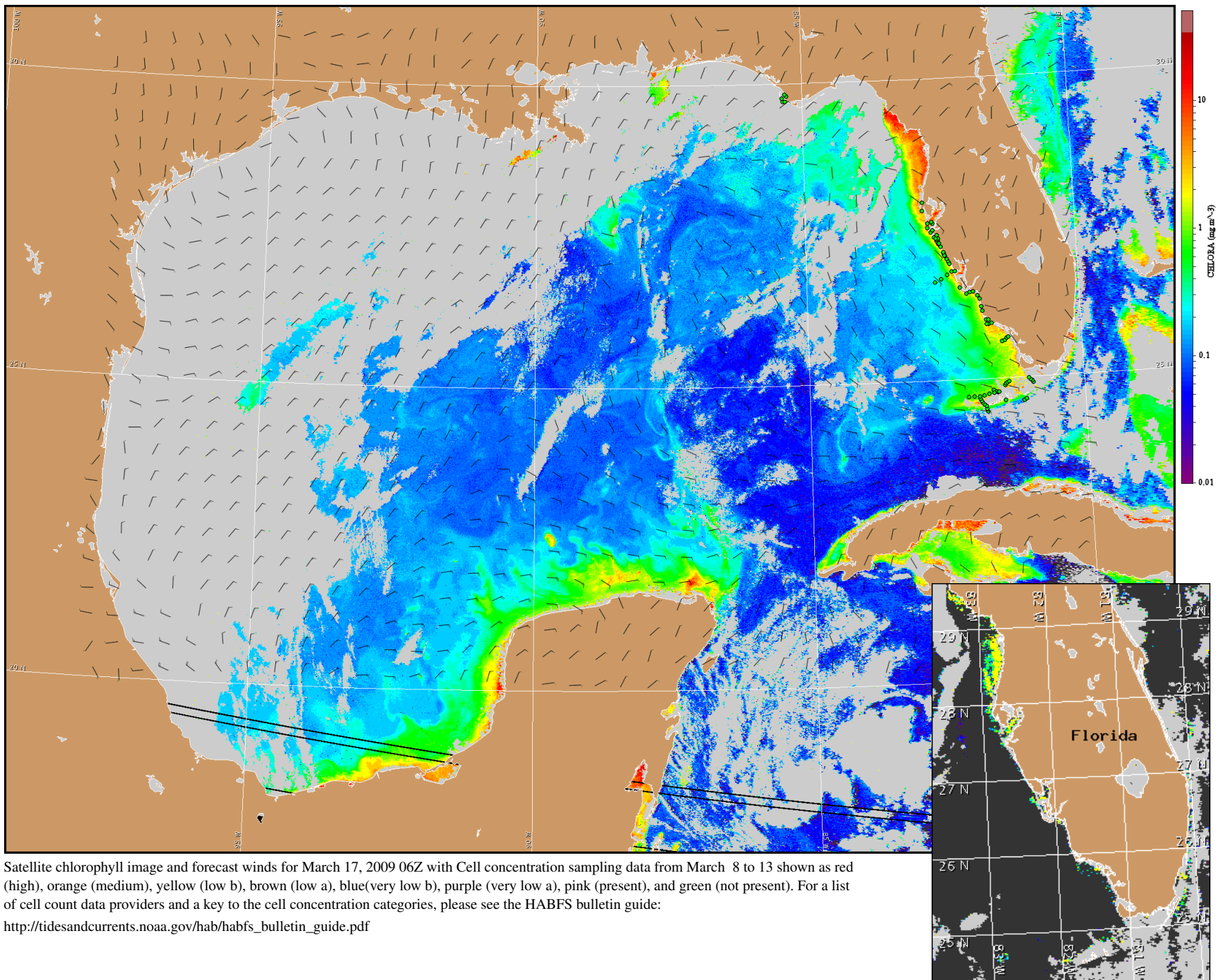


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).



Wind Analysis

SW Florida: South winds today, becoming east tonight (5-10kn, 3-5m/s). East winds Tuesday, becoming southwest (5kn, 3m/s). North to northeast winds Tuesday night (5-10kn). East winds Wednesday. East to southwest winds Thursday (5-10kn). Northwest winds Thursday night (5-10kn). North winds Friday (5-10kn).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 17, 2009 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from March 8 to 13 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).